

TO: Attorney General John Ashcroft

CC: Sen. Rick Santorum

RE: Microsoft Settlement

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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 11, 2002

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

After a three year legal dispute between the federal government and Microsoft, I was pleased to hear that a settlement was finally reached. I sincerely hope that no further action is being considered at the federal level.

Considering the terms of the agreement, Microsoft did not get off easy. In fact, Microsoft is now left to make several significant changes to the ways that they handle their business. For example, Microsoft has agreed to grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows so as to promote non-Microsoft software programs that compete with programs within Windows. Computer makers will now be free to remove the means by which consumers access various features of Windows. Computer makers can replace those features with access to non-Microsoft software.

With the many terms of the agreement, there should be no reason to pursue further litigation on any level against Microsoft. Microsoft represents the best of the American economy and the American ideal of success through hard work and innovation. The government should never have interfered to begin with, and there should not be any further action.

cc: Senator Rick Santorum

Sincerely,



Nick Olson